

2005 Annual Convention A Record-Breaking Affair



Galen Miller, (left) Burns & McDonnell associate VP and project manager, and Lennart Lindahl, a Governing Board member for the South Florida Water Management District, congratulate each other on winning engineering's top honor, the ACEC Grand Conceptor Award at the EEA Gala.

More than 1,200 attendees—a record high—participated in ACEC's first Annual Convention in Washington in 30 years.

The Convention for the first time combined Consulting Congress Day, and the Engineering Excellence Awards, with the spring annual meeting.

Highlights of the Convention included:

- ?? Hundreds of ACEC "citizen lobbyists" visited 300 Congressional offices to lobby for legislation important to the engineering industry.
- ?? 175 projects—an all-time high—were recognized at the Engineering Excellence Awards Gala. Kansas City-based Burns & McDonnell received the Grand Conceptor Award for its Everglades Restoration Project.
- ?? U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao commended ACEC for helping establish new reforms to the Fair Labor Standards Act.
- ?? President George W. Bush sent a letter praising ACEC members for their leadership in the industry.
- ?? Astronaut Neil Armstrong received ACEC's 2005 Distinguished Award of Merit and credited his professional accomplishments to being an engineer.

More Convention coverage available in the [April 22 edition](#) of *Last Word*, and the May/June issue of *Engineering Inc.*